

Capsule Summary  
for  
Lucy Connell Farm

June 1991

Mont. Co. survey prefix : 29  
Site number : 4  
Approx. building date : c. 1880  
Town/town vicinity : Potomac  
Access : ☐ Public ☒ Private

Short Description of Site:

The integrity of the main house has been severely compromised by upgrading which has included removing the original center gable; the addition of a Colonial Revival arched hood over the door; moving the chimneys from through the roof to the sides of the house and changing their character from square and corbeled to wide and rectangular; adding wings to each gable end of the facade, with a gambrel roof and modern box bay window as well as French doors with fanlights on the wing at the south gable end; replacing 2/2 windows and adding 6/6, quarter-round windows on either side of the new exterior chimney and French doors in the rear. The remaining significance lies in the outbuildings which retain integrity of material, form and siting (although the two large barns and the tenant house have been sold) and in the main house's hillside location, reached by a long driveway through pastures.

**Analysis of Evaluation**  
**for**  
**Lucy Connell Farm (29/4)**

M:29-4

June 1991

Value Descr.			
Outstanding			
Considerable			
Moderate	✓		✓
Minor		✓	
Evaluation Criteria	Arch. Signif.	Arch. Integrity	Historical Signif.

**Procedure:**

$$\text{Rating} = \frac{\# \text{ of Boxes Selected}}{12} \times 100$$

0 - 25 % = Unqualified  
25 - 50 % = Minimal  
50 - 75 % = Mid-level  
75 - 100 % = Good  
90 - 100 % = Natl. Reg. (with possible exceptions)

**Rating for this site: Minimal (value of site is in outbuildings)**

**Criteria:**

**Arch. Significance** - that quality which embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose component may lack individual distinction.

**Historical Significance** - that quality present in sites associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in history.

**Arch. Integrity** - determined by the number of architectural changes to the site...using the following list as a guide...(and) noting other unusual changes.

Detrimental Changes (depending on the quality of its original character):

- \_\_\_ new or relocated chimney
- \_\_\_ rebuilt foundation
- \_\_\_ new porch
- \_\_\_ original windows changed (at a later, but still historical, date)
- \_\_\_ modern windows in original frames
- \_\_\_ original windows intact but extra ones added
- \_\_\_ change in shape or size of window openings
- \_\_\_ lack of outbuildings
- \_\_\_ aluminum siding (unless original architraves and trim are retained)
- \_\_\_ asphalt or asbestos siding (over original siding)
- \_\_\_ recent change of location

**Critical Changes:**

- \_\_\_ aluminum siding added; architraves eliminated
- \_\_\_ additions engulfing or removing portions of original building

**Value Descriptions**

**Outstanding** - distinguished; of particular import. to Md. historic & arch. past.

**Considerable** - deserving of recognition; contributes to the understanding of history or architectural heritage represented in Maryland

**Moderate** - commonality...lack of historic signif. or arch. style, except if scarce

**Minor** - unimportant or inferior; little arch. worth and absence of hist. importance

Site Information Summary

for

Lucy Connell Farm

June 1991

M:29-4

Site number : 29/4  
Co. tax account number : 1875148  
Street address : 11001 Piney Meetinghouse Road  
Potomac, Maryland 20854  
Name of property owner : William Oldaker  
Addr. of property owner : 11001 Piney Meetinghouse Road  
Potomac, Maryland 20854

Historic Preservation Master Plan Recommendation:

Historic Preservation Ordinance Criteria

(1) *Historical and cultural significance.* The historic resource:

- ☒ a. Has character, interest or value as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the county, state or nation;
- ☐ b. Is the site of a significant historic event;
- ☐ c. Is identified with a person or group of persons who influenced society;
- ☐ d. Exemplifies the cultural, economic, social, political or historic heritage of the county and its communities.

(2) *Architectural and design significance.* The historic resource:

- ☐ a. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction;
- ☐ b. Represents the work of a master;
- ☐ c. Possesses high artistic values;
- ☐ d. Represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- ☒ e. Represents an established and familiar visual feature of the neighborhood, community or county due to its singular physical characteristic or landscape.

Environmental Setting Recommendation:

The environmental setting should include the entire lot (#15) of 2.11 acres.

**Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

Survey No. M:29-4

Magi No.

DOE   yes   no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic Lucy Connell Farm

and/or common same

**2. Location**

street & number 11001 Piney Meetinghouse Road    not for publication

city, town Potomac    vicinity of    congressional district 60

state Maryland county Montgomery

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u>  </u> district	<u>  </u> public	<u>X</u> occupied	<u>  </u> agriculture
<u>X</u> building(s)	<u>X</u> private	<u>  </u> unoccupied	<u>  </u> commercial
<u>  </u> structure	<u>  </u> both	<u>  </u> work in progress	<u>  </u> educational
<u>  </u> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<u>  </u> entertainment
<u>  </u> object	<u>  </u> in process	<u>  </u> yes: restricted	<u>  </u> government
	<u>  </u> being considered	<u>  </u> yes: unrestricted	<u>  </u> industrial
	<u>X</u> not applicable	<u>X</u> no	<u>  </u> military
			<u>  </u> museum
			<u>  </u> park
			<u>X</u> private residence
			<u>  </u> religious
			<u>  </u> scientific
			<u>  </u> transportation
			<u>  </u> other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mr. William Oldaker

street & number 11001 Piney Meetinghouse Road telephone no.: (301) 983-9221

city, town Potomac state and zip code Maryland 20854

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse 6075  
   liber

street & number    folio 0830

city, town Rockville state Maryland

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title Montgomery County Inventory of Historic Sites

date 1976    federal X state X county    local

depository for survey records Maryland National Capital Park & Planning Commission

city, town 8787 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring state Maryland

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Summary: The integrity of the main house has been severely compromised by upgrading which has included removing the original center gable and replacing it with a Colonial Revival arched hood; moving the chimneys from through the roof to the sides of the house and changing their character from square and corbelled to wide and rectangular; adding wings to each gable end of the facade (the wing on the south has a gambrel roof and modern box bay window as well as French doors with fanlights); replacing 2/2 windows and adding 6/6 windows on the main block and quarter-round windows on either side of the new exterior chimneys; and adding French doors in the rear of the main block. The remaining significance lies in the outbuildings which retain integrity of material, form and siting (although the two large barns and the tenant house have been sold) and in the main house's hillside location reached by a long driveway through pastures.<sup>1</sup>

Description: The farmhouse is situated at the top of a gentle hill facing west. The drive extends past the house on the north, between the house and two large barns to a tenant house and garage, then curves south between the house and a woodshed. Just beyond the driveway on the east is a wash shed with a large overhang in front, facing east.<sup>2</sup>

A branch from the main drive curves south into the front yard of the house and forms a circle around some large trees. The Connell house now has a three-bay, two-story ell-shaped main block with a one-story gabled wing to the north and a one-and-one-half story gambrel-roofed wing with gabled dormers on the south. A two-story addition has also been made in the angle of the ell on the northeast. There are now four chimneys: two exterior fireplace chimneys on the gable ends of the original building, and one on each end of the new wings. Second story windows are now generally 6/6. The facade has an 8/8 window on the first floor to the right of the front door, and a tripartite double hung window to the left, with two narrow (4/4) windows flanking the central 6/6 window. Windows on the original house have louvred blinds. A shed-roofed box-bay on the east of the southern addition has a large window with many small fixed lights, and there is a bay window on the east side of the northern addition. There is also a double window with a fanlight on the rear of the original ell. French doors flank the chimneys on both north and south additions; on the south, they are surmounted by fanlights. A glass-paned door gives access from the addition

(cont.)

<sup>1</sup> Early picture of Plummer House, Potomac Almanac, July 1977, p. 3.

<sup>2</sup> Eric Sloane, An Age of Barns (New York: Ballantine Books, 1967) p. 87.

in the ell to a rear patio with a balustrade. The front door now has a Colonial Revival hood. The original Victorian center gable dormer has been removed, and shed dormers have been placed on the gambrel-roofed addition. The house has weatherboard siding and a slate roof.

Outbuildings: Immediately east of the house in the rear, and facing east to catch the morning sun, is a small German-sided wash house with a deeply overhanging gable sheltering the door. There are two small windows in either side. This building conforms to that pictured in Eric Sloane's book as a Virginia Wash House, c. 1840.<sup>3</sup> The building is not adjacent to the driveway.

Nearby, to the north, is a small gabled storage shed with a door in one gable end and a large window on the opposite end, small windows under the eaves and a shed extension to the south with a window in it. This building is on the driveway.

Still further north, on the driveway, is a gabled small barn or garage with double doors secured by a bar dropped into wooden brackets.

Northeast of this garage is a one-and-one-half-story, side-gabled, three-bay tenant house. It has a full front porch with a shed roof supported by square wooden posts. The house has 6/6 windows, a standing seam metal roof, and stuccoed walls. It has a cinder block stove chimney on the south end.

Down a fairly steep hill to the north about 150 yards is one of two large barns, this one with a gambrel roof. This barn is five-bay by three-bay, with a central Dutch door in the narrow end, and two hayloft doors, one above the other, over the door. There is another door with a small hood in the center of the long side of the barn.

The other barn is about 200 yards west and has a gabled, asphalt shingled roof and a centered side entrance with a board and batten hayloft door above. This barn has nine bays on the eave side in the main block and one in a shed roofed addition to the south. It also has three louvred windows in the gable ends, one in the peak, and two on the sides below.

All outbuildings are frame.

Researcher: Susan Escherich, May 1991.

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<sup>3</sup> Sloan, p. 87.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. M:29-4

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** c. 1880, 1934 **Builder/Architect** Builder: Wm. Connell (?)/Arch.: ---

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Lucy Connell Farm is significant because a portion of the main house dates from the 1880s and there are several noteworthy outbuildings on the property.

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Agriculture
2. Geographic Organization: Piedmont (Montgomery County)
3. Development Period: Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930 A.D.
4. Resource Type(s): Grain producing/livestock/dairy farms

The site is located on part of two tracts known as "Resurvey on Newton" and "Barren Hill" which William G. Connell acquired in 1870 in an equity sale, for a total of 205.25 acres; the property cost him \$3,180.<sup>1</sup> The style of the house and old maps indicate that it was probably built ca. 1880s by the Connell family who owned the property at the time.<sup>2</sup>

In 1899, William Connell's wife Lucy sold approximately 100 acres of the property to William Hill<sup>3</sup> and, in 1913, Hill conveyed the property to his wife, Lavinia Hill.<sup>4</sup> Lavinia Hill died intestate in 1934, and William Hill and his seven children sold 100 acres to George P. and Frances Plummer.<sup>5</sup>

The Plummers owned the property for almost 70 years, until 1978, when, after the death of George Plummer, it was sold for development.<sup>6</sup> In 1980, the

(cont.)

<sup>1</sup> Montgomery County Land Records, EBP 7/363, May 30, 1870.

<sup>2</sup> Michael F. Dwyer, Maryland Historical Trust, "National Register Nomination Form", 1975.

<sup>3</sup> Montgomery County Land Records, TD 8/116, April 7, 1899.

<sup>4</sup> Montgomery County Land Records, 238/257, October 3, 1913.

<sup>5</sup> Montgomery County Land Records, 568/82, April 9, 1934.

<sup>6</sup> Montgomery County Land Records, 5261/510, December 20, 1978.

property (now part of a development known as "Potomac View Estates") was conveyed to Peter and Janet Hitchen.<sup>7</sup> In 1983, the Hitchens sold it to the present owner, William Oldaker.<sup>8</sup>

The house was partially remodeled by the Plummers after they acquired it in 1934 (Potomac Almanac photo, 1977, attached). It appears that the public was allowed to use the property for recreational purposes in the years when it was owned by George Plummer, a successful businessman:

"The beautiful rolling hills of his 295 acres are dear to the hearts of many Potomac neighbors, as well as to millions of weekend drivers from the city. For 45 years the Plummers' farm has been enjoyed by fox hunters, sledders, skiers, fishermen, swimmers, picnickers and artists."<sup>9</sup>

In the years that they owned the property, the Plummers reclaimed what had been neglected farmland, raising wheat and barley and cattle.

"After years of breeding...they ended up with the top herd in Maryland, 60 cows and two bulls. Buyers traveled far to get the Plummer cattle."<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> Montgomery County Land Records, 5470/736, January 18, 1980.

<sup>8</sup> Montgomery County Land Records, 6075/0830, May 10, 1983.

<sup>9</sup> Potomac Almanac, July 1977, p. 3.

<sup>10</sup> Almanac, p. 3.



Attached

M: 29-4

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 2.11 acres

Quadrangle name Rockville

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries of the property are the lot lines which define lot 15, east of Piney Meetinghouse Road and south of Piney Meetinghouse Court, and which are boldly delineated on the accompanying tax map.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Lois Snyderman & Susan Escherich, Historic Preservation Consultants		
organization	date	June 1991	
street & number	8804 Spring Valley Road	telephone	(301) 654-6423
city or town	Chevy Chase	state	Maryland 20815

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

## #9. Major Biographical References

Lucy Connell Farm  
M; 29/4

Land and Tax Records, Montgomery County, Maryland.

Potomac Almanac, July 1977.

Dwyer, Michael F., Maryland Historical Trust, "National Register  
Nomination Form", 1975.

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

Survey No. M 29-4

Magi No. 1607515604

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic Lucy Connell Farmhouse

and/or common Spring Hill Farm (Plummer Farm)

**2. Location**

street & number 11001 Piney Meetinghouse Rd. ☐ not for publication

city, town Potomac ☐ vicinity of congressional district 6th

state Maryland county Montgomery

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Potomac Lots Limited Partnership

street & number 1 Bank St. c/o Folger Co. telephone no.:

city, town Gaithersburg state and zip code Md., 20760

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse liber 5280

street & number folio 60

city, town Rockville state Md.

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title MNCPPC Historic Sites Inventory

date 1976 ☐ federal ☒ state ☒ county ☐ local

pository for survey records Park Historian's Office

city, town Rockville state Md.

M:29-4

7. DESCRIPTION		
CONDITION	(Check One)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed	
	(Check One)	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	(Check One)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE		
<p>This is a small, three-bay, two-story farmhouse-similar in style to Amberlea Farm on DuFief Mill Rd. It is set atop rolling pasture land, above the banks of Watts Branch. The house was remodeled by the Plummers, after they acquired it in 1934. (Not seen close up.)</p> <p>Several outbuildings nearby.</p>		

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

# 8. Significance

Survey No.

M: 29-4

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates      circa. 1870      Builder/Architect

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check: Applicable Criteria:    ☐ A    ☐ B    ☐ C    ☐ D  
    and/or  
          Applicable Exception:    ☐ A    ☐ B    ☐ C    ☐ D    ☐ E    ☐ F    ☐ G

Level of Significance:    ☐ national    ☐ state    ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Lucy Connell farmhouse is significant as a well preserved example of vernacular farm architecture typical of that constructed in Montgomery County from the mid-nineteenth through the early twentieth centuries. The house was probably built by William and Lucy Connell about 1870, the year in which William purchased 205 1/4 acres of tracts of land referred to as "Resurvey on Newton" and "Barren Hill."<sup>1</sup> When George died in 1888, indebted, the farm was offered for sale by a court appointed trustee. It was advertised as 205 1/4 acres located on River Rd., about 1 1/4 miles from Offutt's Crossroads and 1/2 miles from the C&O Canal, adjoining the lands of John and Reuben Creamer and Josiah Pierce. The improvements to the property consisted of a six room house and various outbuildings. The property was sold to his widow, Lucy A.M. Connell, at \$10 an acre.<sup>2</sup> In August of 1899, Lucy sold the house (on 100 acres) to William Hill.<sup>3</sup> Following the death of his wife, Lavinia, in 1934, William sold the farm to George and Francis Plummer.<sup>4</sup>

George and Francis bought this farm and the neighboring farm, totalling 295 acres on both sides of Piney Meetinghouse Rd., for \$8,300.00. They gradually cleared and cultivated the land, turning it into a bluegrass turf farm. They later started into the cattle business and also raised <sup>and thoroughbred</sup> horses. In addition to farming, George was a lawyer and president of the board of H.L. Rust Real Estate Co. The Plummers enlarged the windows on the first floor facade and added a slate roof and a decorative portico over the front entrance.<sup>5</sup> George died in April of 1977 (outliving his wife by 20 years), leaving no heirs.<sup>6</sup> The farm-house and surrounding property is now owned by Potomac Lots Limited Partnership.<sup>7</sup>

- <sup>1</sup>Deed EBP 1/491, Mont. Co. Land Records.
- <sup>2</sup>Equity #152-1865, Mont. Co. Judgement Records.
- <sup>2</sup>Equity #757, JA 3/207, Mont. Co. Judgement records.
- <sup>3</sup>Deed TD 8/116, Mont. Co. Land Records.
- <sup>4</sup>Deed 586/82, " "
- <sup>5</sup>Potomac Almanac, July 1977, p.3.
- <sup>6</sup>Washington Post, May 2, 1977.
- <sup>7</sup>Deed 5280/60, Mont. Co. Land Records.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. M:29-4

Mont. Co. Land Records  
Mont. Co. Judgement Records  
Potomac Almanac

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 2 acres

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Catherine Crawford

organization Mont. Co. Hist. Preservation Comm.

date 1/83

street & number

telephone

city or town Rockville

state Md.

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

1607515604

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM  
for the  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>					
COMMON: Spring Hill Farm (Plummer Farm)					
AND/OR HISTORIC: Lucy Connell Farm					
<b>2. LOCATION</b>					
STREET AND NUMBER: 11001 Piney Meetinghouse Road					
CITY OR TOWN: Potomac					
STATE: Maryland			COUNTY: Montgomery		
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>					
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private		<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	
<input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious			
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific			
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>					
OWNER'S NAME: George P. Plummer					
STREET AND NUMBER: 11001 Piney Meetinghouse Road					
CITY OR TOWN: Potomac			STATE: Maryland		
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>					
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Montgomery County Courthouse					
STREET AND NUMBER:					
CITY OR TOWN: Rockville			STATE: Maryland		
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):					
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>					
TITLE OF SURVEY:					
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local					
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:					
STREET AND NUMBER:					
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:		

M:29-4

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This is a small, three-bay, two-story farmhouse-similar in style to Amberlea Farm on DuFief Mill Rd. It is set atop rolling pasture land, above the banks of Watts Branch. The house was remodeled by the Plummers, after they acquired it in 1934. (Not seen close up.)

Several outbuildings nearby.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



M:29-4

# 8. SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

## SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal     | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric    | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic       | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture    | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture   | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art            | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce       | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation   |   |  |  |

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The style of the house and the old maps indicate that it was probably built ca. 1880's. It was on land owned by the Connell family during this period, and they probably built it. (See sale of lands to William Connell by John Vinson, Trustee, in May, 1870.) His wife, Lucy A.M. Connell, is shown on the map of 1894 as having a (tenant?) house here. She sold the property to William Hill on April 7, 1899, in Deed T.D.-8/116. This included parts of "The Resurvey on Newton" and "Barren Hill". These lands of the (late) Lavinia Hill were sold to the Plummers in 1934 (Deed 568/82.)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

M:29-4

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- 1) Mont. Co. Md. Land Records.
- 2) HISTORY OF POTOMAC, by the Potomac Almanac (1970).
- 3) Maps of 1878 & 1894.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:	
Michael F. Dwyer, Senior Park Historian	
ORGANIZATION	DATE
M-NCPPC	3/5/75
STREET AND NUMBER:	
8787 Georgia Ave.	
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE
Silver Spring	Maryland

12 State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

229-4

# George Plummer's Death Marks End of Era

by Margo McConihe

George Plummer died this spring in his home at the corner of Piney Meetinghouse and River Rds. A wonderful chapter in Potomac's history was closed.

The beautiful rolling hills of his 295 acres are dear to the hearts of many Potomac neighbors, as well as to millions of weekend drivers from the city. For 45 years the Plummers' farm has been enjoyed by fox hunters, sledders, skiers, fishermen, swimmers, picnickers and artists.

In 1932, with his handsome bride Frances, George Plummer bought the two farms, totalling 295 acres, on both sides of Piney Meetinghouse Rd., for \$8,300. He would tell you with a twinkle, "I had to sell two good horses to pay for it."

After moving into the farmhouse, the Plummers started work on reclaiming the neglected farmland. They grubbed out bushes and overgrowth in the corner field and planted barley. Gradually, field by field, the fences went up, the scrub pines and broomsage were replaced by crops, and finally the land was fit for the planting of bluegrass. The summer turf today is as thick and deep as any in Kentucky.

The Plummers with the help of their employee Leighton Hyler began cautiously in the cattle business with six cows and a bull. After years of breeding and

culling, they ended up with the top herd in Maryland, 60 cows and 2 bulls. Buyers traveled far to get the Plummer cattle.

The story of George Plummer's life is a synopsis of the

"American Dream." As a youngster, he lived in Upper Marlboro where he learned to ride and farm. When his widowed mother started a boardinghouse in Washington, D.C., to make

ends meet, 15-year-old George quit school and set up a newspaper stand.

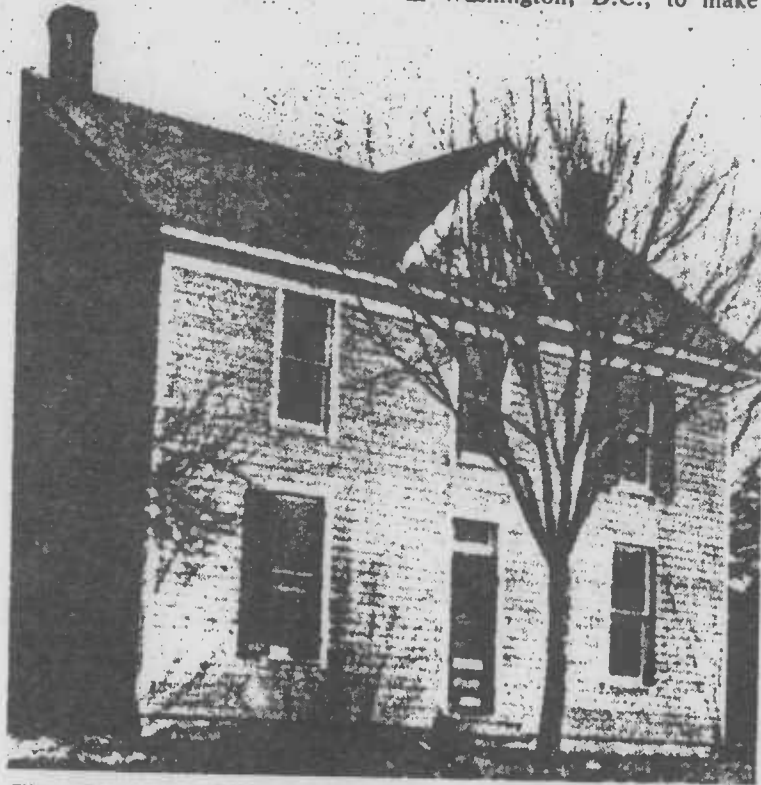
Every morning Hal Rust (of H.L. Rust (Co.) walked to work and stopped to buy his daily paper from George. Mr. Rust knew the Plummer family and enjoyed morning chats with his paperboy. One day, in 1909, he offered young George a job at \$25 a month. George Plummer retired 60 years later as president and chairman of the board of H.L. Rust.

While he worked, George put himself through law school, attending nights. He received his degree in 1914 and went on to get his masters degree the following year.

The Plummer acreage turned into gold. Real estate brokers plagued him with tempting offers, but he was not easy to tempt and had a paternal love for each blade of grass.

There are no Plummer children, so the Plummer estate was left to four of his favorite charities.

And neighbors will be happy to know that Leighton Hyler, who has worked with the Plummers for 25 years, will continue to stay in his farmhouse on the Plummer property.



The Plummers bought this farmhouse in 1932. Note the typical triangular dormer roof over the attic.



The Plummer house today. What a difference a slate roof, larger window on first floor, decorative doorway and planting makes.

## Wedding Invitations

Reception Accessories  
FINE BUSINESS  
and SOCIAL PRINTING

**LOVELAND  
PRINTING CO.**

4224 Fessenden St., N.W.  
**363-7022**



M:29-4

Barn

Tenant  
House

Garage

Shed

Wash  
House

Main House

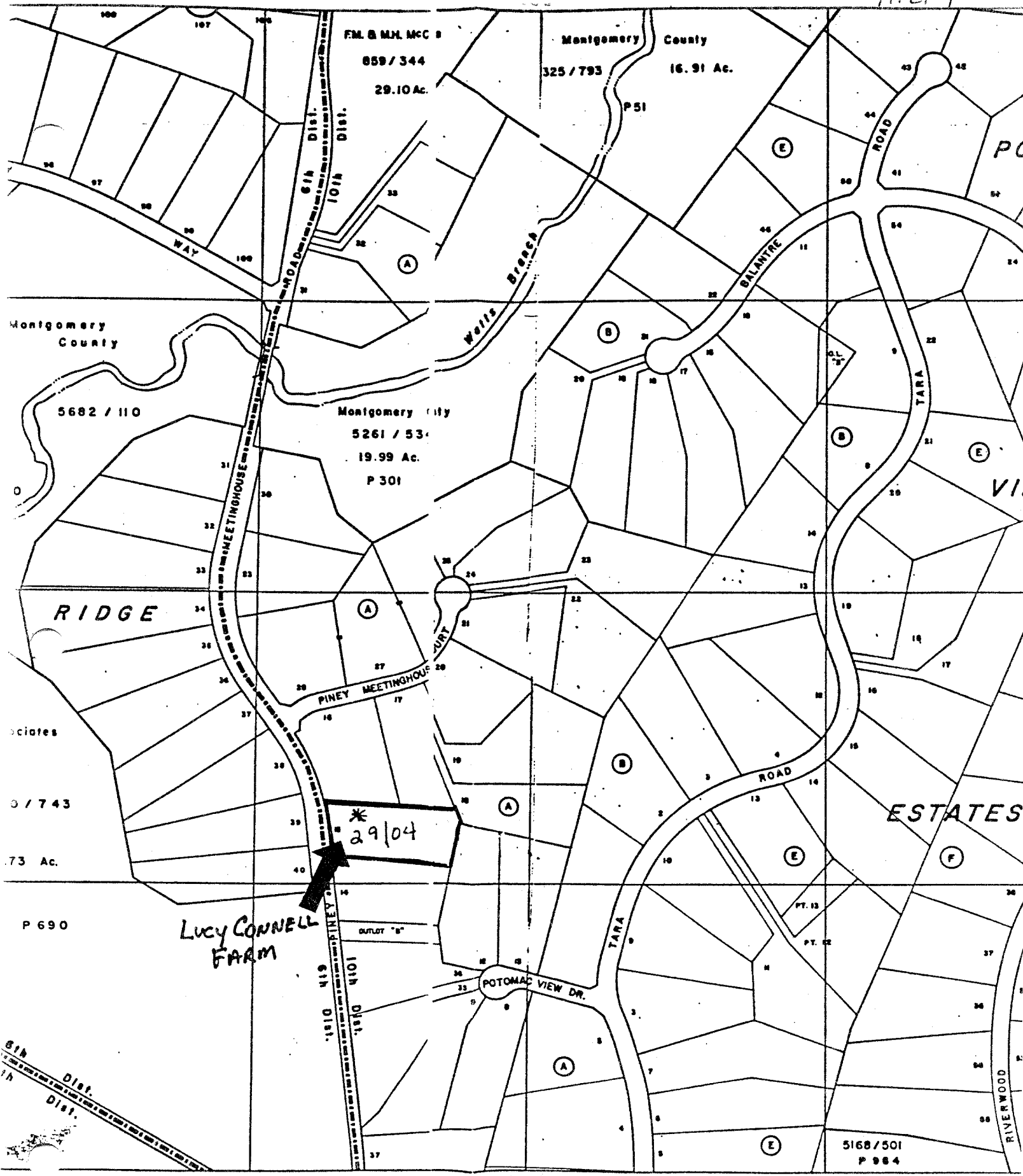
Barn

N

Connell House  
(Not to scale)

M:29-4

M:29-4



F1

FP 123

F2

COMPILED BY  
COORDINATE  
ED  
LO SURVEYS.  
TION,  
MARYLAND

**LEGEND**

----- ELECTION DISTRICT BOUNDARY  
----- CORPORATE BOUNDARY

P-768  
OR  
N-768

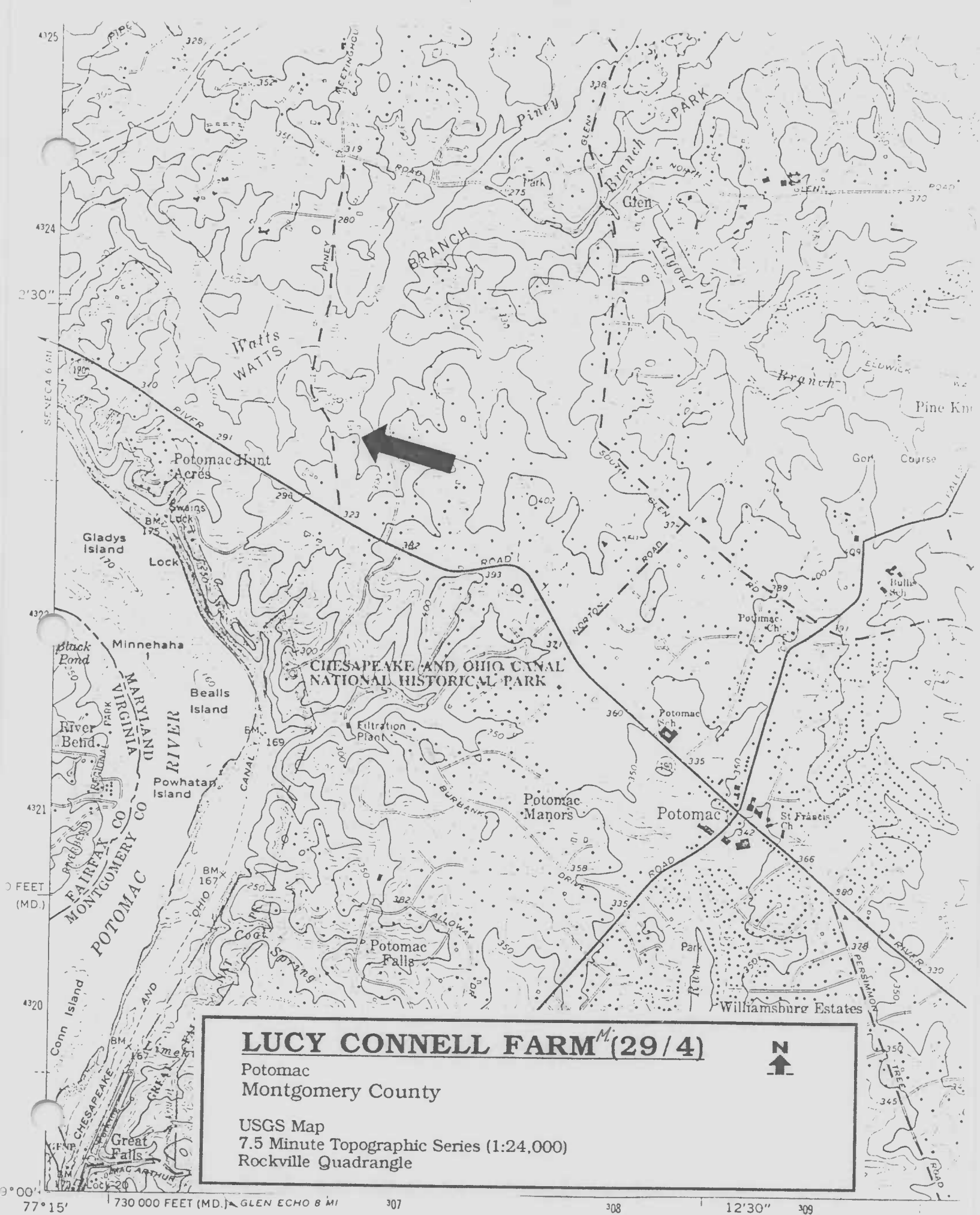
PARCEL NO. IS USED FOR OWNERSHIP  
IDENTIFICATION AND MUST BE  
PRECEDED BY GRID REFERENCE READING  
FIRST BY COLUMN AND THEN BY ROW

CORRIGHT BY STATE DEPARTMENT  
(ASSESSMENTS & TAXATION,  
OFF OF SUPERVISOR OF ASSESSMENTS,  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND  
1967

NORTH

DIST.	CURRENT TO
6	7-1-88
10	7-1-88

SCALE 1" = 200'





M. 29/4

Lucy Cornell Farm

Mont Co MD

by L Snyderman 4/91

Neg Mont. Co. HPC

House - main facade - west elev





M. 29/4

Lucy Connell Farm

Mont Co MD

by L Snyderman 4/91

Neg - Mont Co HPC

House - Main (W) elevation & N elev.



M: 29/4

Lucy Cornell Farm

Mont Co MD

by L Snyderman 4/91

Neg. Mont Co HDC

House - N elev



M: 29/4

Lucy Connell Farm

Mont Co MD

by L Snyderman 4/91

Neg - Mont Co HPC

House - east elev



M: 29/4

Lucy Connell Farm

Mont Co MD

by L. Snyderman 4/91

Neg Mont Co HPL

House East Elev





M: 29/4

Lucy Cornell Farm

Mont Co MD

by L. Snyderman 4/91

Neg - Mont. Co. HPL

House - east elev + south elev



M. 29/4

Lucy Connell Farm

Mont Co Md

by L Snyderman 4/91

Neg - Mont Co HPC

House - South elev



M: 29/4

Lucy Connell Farm

Mont Co MD

by L. Snyderman 4/91

Neg - Mont Co Heat Pres Comm

Barn - east elev



M. 29/4

Lucy Connell Farm  
Mont Co MD

by L. Snyderman 4/9/

Neg - Mont. Co. HPC

Smokehouse - east elev





M: 29/4

Lucy Cornell Farm

Mont Co MD

by L. Snydeman 4/91

Weg - Mont Co HPC

Ice House - west elev



M: 29/4

Lucy Connell Farm

Mont. Co. MD

by L. Snyderman 4/91

Neg. Mont. Co. HPC

Outbuilding - west elev



M: 29/4

Lucy Connell Farm

Mont Co. MD

by L. Snyderman 4/91

Neg - Mont Co. Hist Pres. Comm

Tenant House - W elev